



TITLE OF INVENTION

The Pool Skimmer

CROSS REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH

Not Applicable

REFERENCE TO APPENDIX

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A. FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This device relates to the cleaning of the top surface of an in-ground or above ground pool on a continuous basis. The device uses a portable base to secure a pool net in one position in a pool.

B. PRIOR ART

Examples of the prior art in this area consist of devices, which are either secured to the side or lip of a pool by a clasp or bracket or are permanently attached to the deck or concrete of a pool perimeter. The Mongiello, 5,288,414 patent and McFarland, 5,173,181 patent are examples of these types of devices. While the above referenced patents have the ability to clean the top surface of the pool they are otherwise fixed in place and are not readily portable.

In certain pools a particular area of the pool may be harder to clean due to an excessive amount of trees or other

1 foliage. The current device seeks to combine the advantages of  
2  
3 continuous skimming or cleaning and portability. The  
4  
5 portability aspect of this device would be greatly appreciated  
6  
7 by the pool owner as he or she seeks to maximize the cleaning of  
8  
9 any trouble spot in the pool.  
10

11  
12 Additionally this device allows a height adjustment of the  
13  
14 pool net, for maximum cleaning or skimming efficiency.  
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#### 16 **BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

17  
18 One of the difficulties in maintaining a pool is to make  
19  
20 sure that any fallen debris including leaves, twigs, and moss is  
21  
22 trapped as soon as possible. Otherwise, this material will  
23  
24 float to the bottom and create maintenance headaches for the  
25  
26 homeowner as it decomposes.  
27

28 The traditional method of skimming a pool is to pick up the  
29  
30 floating debris by using a pole with a net or some other  
31  
32 skimming device. This must be done by an individual and  
33  
34 therefore is limited in the hours of operation.  
35

36 The current invention involves a device, which is free  
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38 standing and can be used at any time of day or night and is  
39  
40 independent of any operator or individual. Because it is a  
41  
42 freestanding device, which can be moved to any part of the pool  
43  
44 depending on a particular need, the pool owner can position the  
45  
46 device wherever the greatest need arises to clean the top  
47  
48 surface of the pool.  
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1        This device is comprised of a freestanding base comprised  
2  
3 of four legs connected by tubing or piping with an opening at  
4  
5 one end to insert and secure a standard pool net. The net can  
6  
7 be inserted partially below the surface of the water to catch  
8  
9 any fallen debris, which floats on the pool surface and is  
10  
11 directed into the net.  
12

13        As the water is circulated around the pool by the pool  
14  
15 jets, the debris on the surface floats into the net.  
16  
17 The next day the homeowner can then simply empty the net and  
18  
19 reposition the device, if desired.  
20

21        This device is not permanently attached to the deck or  
22  
23 concrete pool surface and can be easily moved from location to  
24  
25 location around the perimeter of the pool surface. Because it  
26  
27 does not depend on the efforts of an operator this device can be  
28  
29 used around the clock, every day of the year.  
30

31        It can be used on both inground and aboveground pools.  
32

33        The object of the present invention is to make the cleaning  
34  
35 of the top surface of any type of pool effortless and  
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37 continuous while maintaining maximum efficiency of the existing  
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39 pool filters.  
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**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device

Figure 2 is a view from the back of the device

Figure 3 is a view from the front of the device

Figure 4 is a top view of the device

Figure 5 is a bottom view of the device

Figure 6 is a left side view of the device

Figure 7 is a right side view of the device

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

It is the object of this invention to trap and collect debris on the top surface of a pool on a continuous basis without the necessity of an individual operating a net or other skimming device. It is designed to be portable and lightweight to enable the pool owner to position this device where the greatest need is present.

The principal advantages of continuous skimming of the debris from the top surface of the pool include the reduced maintenance that may become necessary as a result of the failure to clean the surface and to insure that the skimmers, which are built into the side of the in ground pool work at maximum efficiency. If the skimmers become clogged the pool filter will operate at reduced efficiency. This will lead to maintenance problems for the pool owner. It is the further object of this invention to assist the skimmers operate at maximum efficiency by reducing the amount of floating debris.

According to Figure 1 this device consists of two sets of legs, which are located at the first end of the device. The legs are identical in shape and size and two sets of legs, a first or front set (60) and a second or rear set is contemplated (61). The vertical and horizontal dimensions of the pairs of legs are identical. A "T" fitting (62) connects the rear set of legs together in the approximate center. A length of tubing (10) connects the two sets of legs and is

1 affixed to the "T" at the rear set of legs and a cross fitting  
2  
3 (63). This tubing (10) extends from the center of the rear set  
4  
5 of legs (61) between a "T" fitting (62) connecting the rear  
6  
7 legs (61) and a "cross" fitting (63), which connects the rear  
8  
9 set of legs to the front set of legs (60). Connected to the  
10  
11 cross member fitting (63) on the front or first set of legs  
12  
13 (60) is another length of tubing (15) which connects the front  
14  
15 set of legs to a "T" fitting (30), which is positioned  
16  
17 vertically, into which the height adjustment tube (32) will be  
18  
19 inserted. The material, which will be used for construction of  
20  
21 this device, must be water resistant and non-corrosive due to  
22  
23 its proximity to water. It is contemplated that polyvinyl  
24  
25 chloride (PVC) piping or other type of hard plastic will be  
26  
27 used.

28  
29 A vertical "T" fitting (30) at the second end of this  
30  
31 device is affixed so that the net can be mounted on the first  
32  
33 end of the height adjustment tube. The height adjustment tube  
34  
35 (32) fits through the center of vertical "T" fitting (30).  
36

37 It is anticipated that the device when assembled will have  
38  
39 a vertical dimension of five inches off the ground. The  
40  
41 connection points for the legs will extend radially from the  
42  
43 centerline of the device approximately five inches. The  
44  
45 distance between the two sets of legs will be approximately  
46  
47 eleven inches and the distance between the second end and the  
48  
49 cross fitting is approximately eleven inches for a  
50

1 total length of approximately two feet from end to end.

2  
3 Two holes are drilled in the approximate center of the  
4  
5 vertical "T" fitting (30); these holes are positioned 180  
6  
7 degrees apart or diametrically opposed to each other. The  
8  
9 purpose of the holes in the vertical "T" is to secure the pool  
10  
11 skimmer or net (50) to the device.

12  
13 Another set of holes, which is placed in the height  
14  
15 adjustment tube (32) allows the pool skimmer or net (50) to be  
16  
17 adjusted in a vertical fashion. These vertical series of holes  
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19 (40) are 180 degrees apart or diametrically opposed to each  
20  
21 other and are drilled through the height adjustment tube (32).  
22  
23 The holes in the height adjustment tube are approximately one  
24  
25 inch apart and there are approximately five or six sets of holes  
26  
27 (40) for the vertical adjustment of the pool skimmer. The  
28  
29 diameter of the pool skimmer or net tubing is slightly less than  
30  
31 the diameter of the height adjustment tube (32).

32  
33 In addition, two holes (33), 180 degrees apart or  
34  
35 diametrically opposed to each other, are drilled through the  
36  
37 height adjustment tube (32) three-quarters of an inch from the  
38  
39 bottom and attach the net (50) to the height adjustment tube  
40  
41 (32) at the bottom of the tube proximate to the water surface.  
42  
43 These holes (33) will receive a plastic spring loaded locking  
44  
45 device that comes as part of the pool skimmer or net (50) to  
46  
47 attach the pool skimmer or net to the height adjustment tube  
48  
49 (32).  
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1 A pin (31) or other securing device is inserted through the  
2  
3 holes in the vertical "T" or vertical connection member (30) and  
4  
5 through the holes in the height adjustment tube (32). The type  
6  
7 of securing device may include a cotter pin or bolt and extends  
8  
9 through both holes to secure the pin (31) in place.

10  
11 According to Figure 2, the adjusting tube (32) can be moved  
12  
13 up or down to compensate for variations in the water level in  
14  
15 the pool. The pool skimmer (50) is a standard pool net which  
16  
17 can be purchased at any pool supply store.

18  
19 The construction of the device is comprised of hollow  
20  
21 tubing or piping, which should be lightweight and non ferrous.  
22  
23 Within the hollow legs at the rear of the base weight is added  
24  
25 for anti-tipping stability. The weight is added in the rear  
26  
27 legs (61) which are distal from the pool.

28  
29 The device can be moved from location to location around  
30  
31 the perimeter of the pool to collect debris form the top surface  
32  
33 of the pool at will and with ease.

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35 The additional Figures, which have been included in this  
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37 application show the invention from the various angles for a  
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39 more complete representation of the device.  
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## CLAIMS

While the embodiments of the invention have been disclosed, certain modifications may be made by those skilled in the art to modify the invention without departing from the spirit of the invention. The inventor claims:

1. A pool skimming device which is comprised of a first and second set of legs, connecting tubing, cross fitting, a vertical connection member or vertical "T", height adjustment tube, securing device, and pool skimming net;  
said first set of legs and second set of legs are connected together by tubing to form the base of the device;  
said base is connected to the height adjustment tube with a piece of tubing which extends from a cross fitting to the vertical connection member;  
said securing device attaches the height adjustment tube to the vertical connection member through a hole in the middle of the vertical connection member;  
wherein a pool skimming net is attached to the end of the height adjustment tube proximate to the water surface.
2. The second set of legs as described in claim 1, wherein the legs are constructed of hollow tubing.
3. The second set of legs as described in claim 2,

- 1 wherein weight has been added within the hollow tubes.  
2  
3 4. The connecting tubing as described in claim 1, wherein  
4 the tubing is nonferrous.  
5  
6  
7 5. The cross fitting as described in Claim 1 wherein it  
8 joins the set of legs to the height adjustment tube.  
9  
10  
11 6. The vertical connection member as described in claim  
12 1, wherein a cotter pin is inserted through a hole in  
13 the height adjustment tube to allow a height  
14 adjustment of a pool net.  
15  
16  
17 7. The height adjustment tube as described in claim 5,  
18 wherein a series of holes allows the net to be  
19 adjusted in a vertical fashion relative to the surface  
20 of the pool.  
21  
22  
23 8. The securing device as described in Claim 1 wherein it  
24 is a cotterless hitch pin.  
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27 9. The securing device as described in Claim 1 wherein it  
28 is a nut and bolt.  
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31 10. The securing device as described in Claim 1 where it  
32 is a twist lock.  
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35 11. The device as described in Claim 1 wherein the  
36 material used in the construction is nonferrous.  
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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

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3       This device will be available to the pool owner to clean  
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5 the surface debris from a pool on a twenty-four hour seven day  
6  
7 a week basis. It is free standing and can be moved from  
8  
9 location to location around the perimeter of the pool depending  
10  
11 on the pool. The ability to move it from location to location  
12  
13 allows maximum efficiency to clean a pool. The device allows  
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15 the net to be adjusted in a vertical direction to accommodate  
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17 the varying level of water in the pool.  
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